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## LOG OF MEETING

### DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

**SUBJECT:** Task Group on Screening Tests/ Performance Measures of Mattresses—  
Open Flame Ignition

**DATE OF MEETING:** September 27, 2000

**DATE OF LOG ENTRY:** October 12, 2000

**SOURCE OF LOG ENTRY:** Margaret Neily, ESME *MM*

**LOCATION:** National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST), Polymers  
Building, Room B-245, Gaithersburg, MD

**CPSC ATTENDEES:** See attached attendees list.

**NON-CPSC ATTENDEES:** See attached attendees list.

**SUMMARY OF MEETING:** The Sleep Products Safety Council is currently sponsoring NIST research characterizing the hazards presented by mattresses ignited by burning bedding, the most common scenario of open flame ignition of mattresses. Tests have demonstrated that the interaction of the mattress and foundation in this scenario is so complex that a full-scale test may be the most reliable measure of mattress performance. However, these full-scale tests are expensive and few laboratories and no mattress manufacturers in the United States have the facilities to conduct these tests. The group met to discuss issues related to the development of a bench scale test that could serve as a surrogate for full-scale tests of mattresses exposed to ignited bedding or equivalent gas burners. The test could be used by CPSC as a compliance screening test and the industry could use it for designing purposes. Such a test should probably be more stringent than the full-scale test which would help avoid recalls. The source of test specimens should be actual production mattresses. NIST will prepare a research proposal based upon these discussions, and CPSC staff will consider funding this aspect of the research/test development effort.

CPSC/DEC OF THE SECRETARY  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
2000 OCT 17 A 9 15

## ATTENDANCE

**Task Group on Screening Tests/ Performance Measures of Mattresses— Open  
Flame Ignition  
September 27, 2000**

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